COPY

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OF THE

PROCLAMATIONS

OF

The Privy-Council of *Scotland* in the Reign of King *William*,

Referred to in the

Acts of Parliament made in that Reign concerning the POOR.

Edinburgh: Reprinted in the Year M. DCC. XXXIX.

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Privy-Council of Scotland in the Reign of King William,

And Acts of Parliament made in that Reign concerning the POOR.

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COPY

OF THE

PROCLAMATIONS

OF

The Privy-Council of *Scotland* in the Reign of King *William*, referred to in the Acts of Parliament made in that Reign concerning the POOR.

A Proclamation anent the Beggars.

WILLIAM and MARY, by the Grace of GOD, King and Queen of *Great Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defenders of the Faith, to Macers of our Privy Council, Meſſengers at Arms, our Sheriffs in that Part, conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially conſtitute, greeting. WHEREAS ſeveral good Laws have been made by our Royal Predeceſſors, for maintaining the Poor, and relieving the Lieges of the Burden of Vagabonds: In Proſecution whereof, we hereby require the Heritors, Miniſters and Elders of every Pariſh, to meet on the ſecond *Tueſday* of *September* next, at their Pariſh-Kirk, and there to make Liſts of all the Poor within their Pariſh, and to caſt up the

Anno 1692.

Heritors, Miniſters and Elders to meet and adjuſt the Quot

Quota of what may entertain them, according to their reſpective Needs; and to caſt the ſaid Quota, the one Half upon the Heritors, and the other Half upon the Houſholders of the Pariſh; and to collect the ſame in the Beginning of every Week, Month or Quarter, as they ſhall judge moſt fit: And to appoint two Overſeers yearly, to collect and diſtribute the ſaid Maintenance to the Poor, according to their ſeveral Needs: And likewiſe, to appoint an Officer to ſerve under the ſaids Overſeers, for in-bringing of the Maintenance, and for expelling ſtranger Vagabonds from the Pariſh; whoſe Fee is to be ſtented on the Pariſh as the reſt of the Maintenance for the Poor is ſtented. And ſuch Poor as are not provided of Houſes for themſelves, or by their Friends, the Heritors are to provide them with Houſes on the Expence of the Pariſh, in manner foreſaid.

One half by the Heritors, and the other by the Houſholders.

Two Overſeers and an Officer.

Penalty 200 l. on each Pariſh monthly, one third to the Purſuer, and two thirds to the Poor.

And if any Pariſh fail in providing ſufficiently for their own Power, the Pariſh ſo failing ſhall pay the Sum of *L.* 200 *Scots*, to be uplifted, a third Part to the Purſuer, and two Parts to be applied to the Maintenance of the Poor of the Pariſh, and that monthly, *toties quoties*, as they ſhall fail in their Duty. And if there be any Mortifications already, or if any hereafter ſhall accrue to any Pariſh, the ſame ſhall be applied, by the Advice of the Heritors and Elders to the Uſe foreſaid, but without Diminution of the Stock of the ſaids Mortifications. And the Heritors and Elders are hereby appointed to have a ſecond Meeting at the ſaids Pariſh-Kirks this Year, on the ſecond *Tueſday* of *October* next, for a more exact ſettling of this Matter: And yearly thereafter the Heritors, Miniſters and Elders of every Pariſh, are to meet on the firſt *Tueſday* of *February*, and the firſt *Tueſday* of *Auguſt* yearly, to conſult and determine herein as ſhall be thought fit, for every enſuing half Year; and to appoint Overſeers by the Year or half Year, as they ſhall conclude.

Mortifications to be ſo applied.

To meet yearly the firſt Tueſday *of* February *and* Auguſt.

Miniſters to inform the Sheriff who is to fine in double the Quota, and poind.

And all the Miniſters are hereby required to give timeous Information to the Sheriff of the Shire, if any Pariſh ſhall fail in Performance of this Chriſtian Duty in whole or in part. And the Sheriff, or Sheriff-depute, are hereby required to call the Delinquents before them without any Delay, and if guilty,

guilty, to fine them in double the Quota which the Miniſter ſhall atteſt to be wanting, and to cauſe poind for the ſame immediately: And where Churches are vacant, that two of the greateſt Heritors reſiding within the Pariſh ſhall be appointed by the firſt Meeting in *September* next, to enquire into the Duty of Pariſhioners and Overſeers, and to inform the Sheriff of their Delinquency.

Heritors to ſet the Poor to Work, either in the Pariſh or any adjacent Manufactory.

And if any of the Poor of the Pariſh be able to work, the Heritors of the Pariſh are hereby authorized and required to put them to Work, according to their Capacities, either within the Pariſh, or in any adjacent Manufactory, as they ſhall find expedient, furniſhing them always with Meat and Cloth.

Children to be taken to Service till thirty, in Terms of the Act 1617.

And if any young Children be found begging, under the Age of fifteen Years, any Perſon who ſhall take the ſaid Children, and bring them before the Heritors, Miniſters and Elders, and cauſe regiſtrate the Name and Deſignation of the Child in the Seſſion-book, and ſhall there enact himſelf to educate the ſaid Child, either to Trade or Work, and take an Extract of the Act from the Clerk of the Seſſion, the ſaid Child ſhall be obliged to ſerve the ſaid Perſon ſo educating him, for Meat and Clothes, until he paſs the thirtieth Year of his Age; and all Manufactories are declared to have the ſame Privilege as to the Education of ſuch young ones; and this to extend not only to the Children of Beggars, but alſo to poor Children whoſe Parents are dead, or with Conſent of the Parents if they be alive. And if any young ones, about fifteen Years of Age, ſhall voluntarily engage themſelves upon the like Conditions, the ſame Method is to be extended to them in every Point. And if any of the young ones ſo educated ſhall diſobey their Maſters, when reaſonably employed, their Maſters are hereby warranted to correct them as they judge expedient, Life and Torture excepted. And if any Perſon harbour or reſet any ſuch Servant belonging to any other, they ſhall return them to their Maſters on Demand, under the Pain of *one hundred* Merks, *toties quoties*, as oft as they ſhall be required ſo to do. And if any Maſter ſhall exact any inhuman or too rigid Service from any ſuch Servant, the Sheriffs or Juſtices of Peace, upon Application by the

In caſe of inhumous Severity, Sheriffs or Juſtices of the Peace are to judge of it.

the Servants, are to judge in the Caſe, and if the Severity ſo deſerve, the Servant may be looſed from ſuch a Maſter, the Servant, or ſome for him, paying the Maſter as much yearly as the Fee of Servants of that Quality would extend to, each Year on the Number of Years wanting to the thirtieth Year of the Servant's Age; and the Heritors meeting on the Days appointed, or major Part of them, are authorized and required to conclude and determine Matters for that half Year.

Beggars to repair to their own Pariſhes, under pain of Impriſonment, and being fed on Bread and Water for a Month.

And to the end that all the Poor may be returned to their own Pariſhes, and the Nation freed of Vagabonds, we ſtrictly require and command all the Beggars within the Kingdom forthwith to repair to their ſeveral Pariſhes, with all Diligence, and to keep the ordinary Highways to the ſame, and ſo ſoon as they come to their Pariſh, to preſent themſelves to the Heritors and Elders, that their Names may be liſted amongſt the Poor of the Pariſh, and they lodged and entertained accordingly; with Certification to all who ſhall be found begging without the Bounds of their Pariſh, after the ſaid ſecond *Tueſday* of *September* next, they ſhall be ſeized as Vagabonds, *impriſoned and fed on Bread and Water for a Month*, or till they be ſent home to their Pariſh in Manner after mentioned; and if they be found vaging a ſecond Time, they are to be marked with an Iron on the Face: And all the Lieges are hereby prohibited to give any Alms to ſuch begging Vagabonds other than Bread and Water allenarly, after the ſaid ſecond *Tueſday* of *September*, until they arrive at their own Pariſhes.

And for the ſecond Fault to be marked with an Iron on the Face.

All Beggars to be apprehended and ſent by Order of Heritors or Magiſtrates to the Pariſh of their Birth.

And to the end that our Will hereanent may be the more ſpeedily made practicable, we ſtrictly command and charge all our Lieges within this our antient Kingdom, to apprehend ſuch Beggars as they ſhall find vaging without their own Pariſh, after the ſecond *Tueſday* of *September*, and forthwith to carry them to the principal Heritor of the Pariſh where they are apprehended, if it be in Landward; and to one of the Baillies in Towns, who ſhall examine the Beggar in the Shire and Pariſh where he was born, and ſhall direct him forthwith to the neareſt Pariſh that lies in the Road to the Pariſh of his Birth, and deliver him to the neareſt Heritor

tor that lies in that High-way in the next Pariſh; and ſo forth from Pariſh to Pariſh, in the ſame Road, until he arrive to the Pariſh of his Nativity, who ſhall then liſt him, and entertain him amongſt their Poor. And the Heritors to whom the Vagabonds are delivered, are hereby authoriſed and required to ſend two ſenſible Men of their Pariſh to convey every Beggar to the Heritor of the next Pariſh, and to ſend a Note of the Beggar's Name, and the Pariſh where he was born, which is to be delivered to the next Heritor who receives him; and every Heritor who receives him is to return a Note ſigned of his Receipt; and ſo forth from Heritor to Heritor in every ſeveral Pariſh. And if any of the ſaids Beggars offer to make their Eſcape in their Tranſportation, the Beggar ſo doing ſhall be ſcourged, and fed with Bread and Water during the reſt of his Journey. And whoever gives Alms to any Beggar not in their Pariſh, after the ſecond *Tueſday* of *September*, and ſhall not ſeize him in order to his Tranſportation, as ſaid is, ſhall be fined in twenty Shillings *Scots*, *toties quoties*, to be uplifted by the Overſeers, and applied to the Uſe of the Poor of the Pariſh. And if the Heritor, to whom the Vagabond ſhall be brought, fail in his Duty of ſending him, he ſhall be fined in *L.* 20 *Scots*, *toties quoties*, to be applied as ſaid is. And if any ſenſible Man ſent to convey them, refuſe or fail in his Duty, he is to be fined in two Merks *Scots*, *toties quoties*, to be applied as ſaid is; and the ſaids ſenſible Men are to be choſen by Turns in the ſaids Pariſhes.

Penalties upon thoſe who neglect.

And whereas by *Act* 18. *Seſſ.* 3. *Par.* ii. *Charles* II. Correction-houſes are appointed to be erected in ſeveral Burghs therein-mentioned, for imploying of poor People in Work as they are capable, which have been hitherto too much neglected, (until the leſſer Burghs be able to perform what is there required, leſt ſo good a Deſign ſhould totally fail) We hereby ſtrictly require Our Burghs of *Edinburgh*, *Stirling*, *Dundee*, *Aberdeen*, *Inverneſs*, *Glaſgow*, *Jedburgh*, *Dumfries* and *Cowper* in *Fife*, or ſuch of them as have not already eſtabliſhed Correction-Houſes, in Manner and to the Ends preſcribed by the ſaid Act, to erect and eſta-

Correction-Houſes to be forthwith built in ſome of the principal Burghs.

 bliſh

bliſh ſuch Houſes, and to receive ſuch Poor for Work therein as ſhall be ſent to them from any Pariſh, in Manner and on the Conditions preſcribed by that Act: And this but prejudice of erecting of Correction-Houſes in other Burghs therein mentioned with all Conveniency. OUR WILL IS HEREFORE, and We charge you ſtrictly and command, that incontinent, theſe Our Letters ſeen, ye paſs to the Market-Croſs of *Edinburgh*, and to the Market-Croſſes of the whole Head Burghs of the ſeveral Shires of this Kingdom, and there, in Our Name and Authority, by open Proclamation, make Publication of the Premiſſes, that none pretend Ignorance. And ordains theſe Preſents to be printed.

Given under our Signet at *Edinburgh* the 11th Day of *Auguſt*, and of our Reign the 4th Year, 1692.

Per actum Dominorum Secreti Conſilii.

In ſupplementum ſigneti, (*ſic ſub.*) DA. MONCRIEF, *Cls. S. Con.*

GOD ſave King *William* and Queen *Mary*.

A Proclamation anent Beggars.

Anno 1693. WILLIAM and MARY, by the Grace of GOD, King and Queen of *Great Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defenders of the Faith, to

Macers of our Privy Council, Meſſengers at Arms, our Sheriffs in that Part conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially conſtitute, Greeting. FORASMUCHAS the Intent and Deſign of our Proclamation, of the Date the 11th of *Auguſt* 1692 Years, requiring all Beggars within this Kingdom forthwith to repair to their ſeveral Pariſhes with all Diligence, hath been much diſappointed and fruſtrated, by the Uncertainty of the Pariſhes where the ſaids reſpective Beggars have been born, and for want of ſuitable Proviſion made by the Heritors and Magiſtrates of the reſpective Pariſhes where the

the ſaid Beggars have been born, or had their laſt *ſeven* Years Reſidence: For Remede whereof, we, with the Advice of the Lords of our Privy Council, ſtrictly require and command all the Beggars within this Kingdom, immediately to repair to the ſeveral Pariſhes where they were born; and where the Pariſh or Place of their Birth is not certain, or diſtinctly known, that they repair to the Pariſhes where they laſt reſided for the Space of ſeven Years together, and to keep the ordinary High-ways to the ſeveral Pariſhes of their Birth, or laſt ſeven Years Reſidence; and ſo ſoon as they come to the ſaids reſpective Pariſhes, to preſent themſelves to the Heritors and Elders, and, where Pariſhes are vacant, and have no Elders, to the Heritors alone: Whom we, with Advice foreſaid, require and command to make the Proviſions neceſſary for the ſaids Beggars, and to liſt their Names amongſt the Poor of the Pariſh, that they may be lodged and entertained accordingly: With Certification to all who ſhall be found begging after the ſecond *Tueſday* of *September* next, they ſhall be ſeized as Vagabonds, *impriſoned and fed with Bread and Water for a Month*, or till they be ſent home to the reſpective Pariſh of their Birth, or laſt ſeven Years Reſidence, in manner mentioned in our ſaid former Proclamation. And we, with Advice foreſaid, require and command the Magiſtrates of our Burghs Royal to meet and ſtent themſelves conform to ſuch Order and Cuſtom uſed and wont in laying on Stents, Annuities or other publick Burdens in the reſpective Burgh, as may be moſt effectual to reach all the Inhabitants: And the *Heritors* of the ſeveral vacant Pariſhes likewiſe to meet, and ſtent themſelves for the Maintenance of their ſaid reſpective Poor, and to appoint the ingathering, uplifting and applying of the ſame for the Uſes foreſaids, ſicklike, and in the ſame Manner as the Heritors and Elders are appointed by our ſaid former Proclamation. And all the Miniſters and Heritors are hereby required to give timeous Intimation to the Sheriff of the Shire, if any Pariſh or Perſon ſhall fail in performance of this Chriſtian Duty in haill or in part, and the Sheriff or Sheriff-depute are hereby required to call the Delinquents before them without any Delay, and, if guilty,

Beggars to return to the Pariſhes where they were born or reſided laſt ſeven Years.

Magiſtrates to ſtent the Burghs, and Heritors the vacant Pariſhes.

Miniſters and Heritors to inform the Sheriff of thoſe who are negligent.

The Sheriff to fine them in double, and poind.

guilty, to fine them in double of the Quota which the Miniſter or Heritors ſhall atteſt to be wanting, and to cauſe poind for the ſame immediately. And further, for preventing of any Queſtion that may ariſe betwixt the Heritors and Kirk-ſeſſion in the ſeveral Pariſhes of this Kingdom, about the Quota of the Collections at the Church Doors, and otherwiſe to be made by the ſaid Seſſion, to be paid in to the Heritors for the End foreſaid; we do hereby, with Advice foreſaid, determine the ſame to be the half of the ſaid Collections; and ordains the ſaid Kirk-ſeſſion to pay in the ſame from time to time, to the ſaids Heritors, or any to be by them appointed accordingly. And we, with Advice foreſaid, declare and ordain our ſaid former Proclamation to ſtand in full Force and Vigour in the haill Heads, Points and Articles thereof, and ordains the ſame to be put in Execution with all Diligence, in ſo far as the ſame is not hereby altered or innovate. And to the Effect our Will and Pleaſure in the Premiſſes may be known, OUR WILL IS, and We charge you ſtrictly and command, that incontinent, theſe our Letters ſeen, ye paſs to the Market-croſs of *Edinburgh*, and to the Market-croſſes of the whole remanent head Burghs of the ſeveral Shires and Stewartries within this Kingdom; and there, in our Name and Authority, make open Proclamation of the Premiſſes, that none may pretend Ignorance: And ordains theſe Preſents to be printed.

One half of the Collections to be given by the Kirk-ſeſſion to the Heritors for the foreſaid ends.

Given under our Signet at *Edinburgh* the 29th Day of *Auguſt*, and of our Reign the fifth Year 1693.

Per actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.

In ſupplementum ſigneti, (ſic ſub.) GILB. ELLIOT, *Cls. Sec. Con.*

GOD ſave King *William* and Queen *Mary*.

A

A Proclamation for putting former Acts and Proclamations anent Beggars *in Execution.*

WILLIAM and MARY, by the Grace of God, King and Queen of *Great Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defenders of the Faith, to *Anno* 1694.

Macers of our Privy Council, Meſſengers at Arms, our Sheriffs in that Part conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially conſtitute, Greeting.

FORASMUCHAS many good Laws have been made by our Royal Predeceſſors, for maintaining the Poor, and relieving the Lieges from Vagabonds; in Proſecution whereof, ſeveral Proclamations have been emitted by our Privy Council, for the better putting the ſaid Laws in Execution; notwithſtanding whereof due Obedience hath not been hitherto given to the ſame, ſo that the Poor are not duly provided for, nor the Vagabonds reſtrained in many Places. Therefore We, with the Advice of the Lords of our Privy Council, hereby require and command the Miniſters, Heritors and Elders of every Pariſh, and Houſholders and Inhabitants within the ſame *reſpectivè*, to follow forth, obſerve and give ready Obedience to the Acts of Parliament and Proclamations of our Privy Council already made and emitted thereanent. And further, We, with Advice foreſaid, require and command the Sheriffs of the ſeveral Shires and their Deputes, Juſtices of Peace and Magiſtrates of the Royal Burghs of this Kingdom, within their ſeveral Juriſdictions, to take Trial how far, and in what Manner, the ſaid Acts of Parliament and Proclamations of Council have been obeyed, and put to Execution conform to the Tenors thereof; and where any have neglected, or been deficient and wanting in what is required of them by the ſaid Acts and Proclamations, to amerciate and fine them therefore in Manner therein ſpecified and preſcribed: And if any Difficulty ſhall happen in the after

Proſecution thereof, through what Cauſe or Occaſion ſoever, not provided for by the ſaid Laws and Proclamations already emitted thereanent, the Magiſtrates *reſpectivè* foreſaid, are hereby required to repreſent the ſame to the Lords of our Privy Council, that they may give ſuch Order thereanent, as may bring this good Work of relieving the Poor and reſtraining Vagabonds to the deſired Iſſue. For the better effectuating whereof, We, with Advice foreſaid, have nominate and appointed a Committee of the Lords of our Privy Council to receive in any Repreſentations from the Magiſtrates *reſpectivè* above-named; and likewiſe with Power to them, to call and conveen before them the Sheriffs and other Magiſtrates *reſpectivè* aforeſaid, to whom the Execution of the ſaid Acts and Proclamations are committed, and particularly the Magiſtrates of *Edinburgh*: And to examine, and take Trial of their Negligence in the ſaid Matter, and to modify the Fines and Penalties to be exacted from them for the ſame, and to report their Opinion therein to a full Council the firſt Council-Day of *September* next. OUR WILL IS HEREFORE, and We charge you ſtrictly and command, that incontinent, theſe our Letters ſeen, ye paſs to the Market-Croſs of *Edinburgh* and remanent Market-Croſſes of the Head Burghs of the ſeveral Shires within this Kingdom, and there, in our Name and Authority, make publick Intimation of the Premiſes, that none may pretend Ignorance.

Given under our Signet at *Edinburgh*, the laſt Day of *July*, and of our Reign the ſixth Year, 1694.

Per actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.

(*ſic ſubſ.*) GILB. ELLIOT *Cls. Sec. Concilii.*

GOD ſave King *William* and Queen *Mary*.

A Pro-

A Proclamation anent the Poor.

WILLIAM, by the Grace of GOD, King of *Great Britain*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, to Macers of our Privy Council, Meſſengers at Arms, our Sheriffs in that Part, conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially conſtitute, greeting. THAT where the many good and laudable Laws made for mantaining the Poor and ſuppreſſing of Beggars, Vagabonds and idle Perſons, have not hitherto taken Effect, partly becauſe there were no Houſes provided for them to reſide in, and partly becauſe the Perſons, to whom the Execution of theſe Laws was committed, have been negligent of their Duty: For Remede whereof, we, with the Advice of the Lords of our Privy-Council, ordain the Proclamations formerly emitted, of the Date the 11th of *Auguſt* 1692, the 29th of *Auguſt* 1693, and laſt of *July* 1694, ratified and approven by *Act* 29. *Seſſion* vi. of our current Parliament, to be reprinted, and put to full and vigorous Execution in all Points. And in order to make the ſaids Proclamations the more effectual, we, with Advice foreſaid, revive *Act* 18. *Seſſ.* 3. *Parl.* ii. *Charles* II. in ſo far as concerns the providing Correction-Houſes for the receiving and entertaining of Beggars, Vagabonds and idle Perſons within the Burghs therein mentioned, *viz.* one Correction-Houſe at the Burgh of *Edinburgh* for thoſe of the Town and Shire of *Edinburgh*, one at the Burgh of *Haddington* for thoſe of the Shire of *Haddington*, one at *Dunſe* for the Shire of *Berwick*, one at *Jedburgh* for the Shire of *Roxburgh*, one at the Burgh of *Selkirk* for the Shire of *Selkirk*, one at the Burgh of *Peebles* for the Shire of *Peebles*, one at *Glaſgow* for the Shire of *Lanerk*, one at the Burgh of *Dumfries* for the Shire of *Dumfries*, one at the Burgh of *Wigton* for the Shire of *Wigton*, one at the Burgh of *Kircudbright* for the Stewartry of *Kircudbright*, one at the Burgh of *Air* for the Shire of *Air*, one at the Burgh of *Dumbarton* for the Shire of

Anno 1698.

Correction-Houſes to be built in terms of the Act 1672.

of *Dumbarton*, one at the Burgh of *Rothſay* for the Shire of *Bute*, one at *Paiſley* for the Shire of *Renfrew*, one at *Stirling* for the Shires of *Stirling* and *Clackmanan*, one at *Linlithgow* for the Shire of *Linlithgow*, one at *Culroſs* for thoſe twelve Pariſhes in *Perthſhire* belonging to the Presbytery of *Dumblane*, one at the Burgh of *Perth* for the reſt of the Shire of *Perth*, one at *Montroſe* for the Shire of *Kincardine*, one at the Burgh of *Aberdeen* for the Shire thereof, one at *Inverneſs* for the Shires of *Inverneſs*, *Roſs* and *Cromarty*, one at the Burgh of *Elgin* for the Shires of *Elgin* and *Nairn*, one at *Inverary* for the Shire of *Argile*; four in the Shire of *Fife*, *viz.* one at *St. Andrews*, one at *Cowpar*, one at *Kirkaldy*, and one at *Dumfermling* for the four ordinary Diviſions of that Shire; one at *Dundee* for the Shire of *Forfar*, one at the Burgh of *Banff* for the Shire of *Banff*, one at the Burgh of *Dornoch* for the Shire of *Sutherland*, one at *Wick* for the Shire of *Caithneſs*, and one at *Kirkwall* for the Shires of *Orkney* and *Zetland*; each of which Houſes ſhall have a large Cloſe, ſufficiently incloſed for keeping in the ſaid poor People, that they be not neceſſitate to be always within Doors, *to the Hurt or Hazard of their Health*. And ordains the Magiſtrates of the ſaid Burghs to provide the Correction-Houſes, and appoint Maſters and Overſeers for the ſame, by Advice of the Presbytery, or ſuch as they ſhall appoint, who may ſet theſe poor Perſons to Work; and that betwixt and the firſt Day of *October* next, under the Pain of 500 Merks quarterly, until Correction-Houſes be provided conform to the ſaid Act.

Sheriffs veſted in the Powers given by Act 1672 to Commiſſioners of Exciſe.

But, in place of the Commiſſioners of Exciſe mentioned in the ſaid Act, we, with Advice foreſaid, require and command the Sheriffs of the Shires and their Deputes, to put the ſaid Act in Execution within their reſpective Shires, as to every Thing that by the ſaid Act was committed to the Commiſſioners of Exciſe. And ordains the ſaid Sheriffs and their Deputes, to give Account of their Diligence herein to the Lords of our Privy-Council, betwixt and the firſt Day of *December* next, under the Pain, every one of them of 500 Merks, who ſhall failzie and neglect to do the ſamen, to be em-

To account for their Diligence to the Privy Council under Penalty of 500 Merks and 100 l. weekly.

employed for the Uſe of the Poor of the Shire; and to be liable for *L.* 100 Weekly, after the ſaid Day, before they return an Account of their Diligence to our Privy-Council, to be employed for the Uſe foreſaid.

And ordains the ſeveral Pariſhes within every Shire and Diſtrict, to ſend their Poor to the Magiſtrates of the Towns where the Correction-Houſes are to be provided, againſt the firſt Day of *November* next; that they may be put into the ſaid Correction-Houſes: And in caſe the Correction-Houſes be not ready to receive the Poor againſt the ſaid Day, ordains the Poor to be ſent to be maintained by the Magiſtrates of the Burgh, who were to provide the ſaid Correction-Houſes; and that ay and while the Correction-Houſes be provided; and that, by and attour the foreſaid Penalties impoſed by the ſaid Act of Parliament, in caſe of Failzie of providing the ſaid Correction-Houſes againſt the ſaid Day. And, in the mean Time, before the ſaid Correction-Houſes be provided, ordains the ſaid Acts and Proclamations of our Privy Council, to be put to full Execution.

Poor to be received in the Correction-Houſes, or otherwiſe maintain'd by the Magiſtrates.

And becauſe there may ſome Queſtions ariſe in putting the ſaid Acts in Execution, for which there can be no general Rule ſet down, in reſpect of the different Conditions and Circumſtances of ſeveral Places of the Country; therefore, that the ſaid Act may be more effectually and with greater Expedition put to Execution, We, with Advice foreſaid, give Power and Warrant to the Miniſters and Elders of each Pariſh, with Advice of the Heritors, or ſo many of them as ſhall meet and concur with the Miniſter and Elders, upon Intimation to be made by the Miniſter from the Pulpit upon the *Sabbath Day* before, to decide and determine all Queſtions that may ariſe in the reſpective Pariſhes, in relation to the ordering and diſpoſing of the Poor, in ſo far as is not determined by the Laws and Acts of Parliament, and the former Acts of our Privy Council, which are ratified by the Act of Parliament foreſaid. OUR WILL IS HEREFORE, and We charge you ſtrictly and command, that incontinent, theſe our Letters ſeen, ye paſs to the Market-Croſs of *Edinburgh*, and remanent Market-Croſſes of the Head Burghs of the ſeveral Shires

Miniſters, Elders and Heritors to determine doubtful Queſtions with reſpect to the Poor.

and Stewartries within this Kingdom; and thereat, in our Name and Authority, by open Proclamation, make Intimation hereof, that none may pretend Ignorance. And ordains these Presents to be printed.

Given under our Signet at *Edinburgh*, the 3d Day of *March*, and of our Reign the ninth Year, 1698.

Per actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.

In supplementum signeti, (sic subs.) GILB. ELLIOT, *Cls. Sec. Concilii.*

GOD save the *KING*.

Acts of Parl. *ratifying the above* Proclamations.

WILLIAM, *Parl.* 1. *Session* 5. *cap.* 43.

Sess. 6. *cap.* 29.

Sess. 7. *cap.* 21.